Bills: SB 457; SB 738; SB 874

Dear Chairmen McCrory and Sanchez, Ranking Members Berthel and McCarty, and esteemed members of the Education Committee, thank you for allowing me to submit testimony on SB 457, SB 738 and SB 874.

I am extremely concerned about the forced regionalization of schools, which would affect Beacon Falls. My husband and I are both from Bridgeport, CT and worked extremely hard in order to move from the inner city to a suburb with an excellent school system. The absolute main reason we chose to move to Beacon Falls was for the Region 16 schools. The small classroom sizes and the resources available in Region 16 are outstanding. Our sons would be put at a disadvantage if their schools were forced to combine into another school system. Parents should have the ultimate say regarding this issue. It is unfair for the affluent lawmakers to make these decisions for the working/middle class, while their children go to the absolute very best school districts in the state.

Thank you again for hearing my testimony. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Eileen Santiago

73 Hillview Street

Beacon Falls, CT 06403